How to Fix QuickBooks Error 16389 (Cannot Update Payroll Taxes)?

If you encounter QuickBooks Error 16389 while updating payroll taxes, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for troubleshooting assistance when you need help identifying why the update cannot complete.

QuickBooks Error 16389 may appear when QuickBooks Desktop cannot successfully download, verify, or install required payroll information. While Intuit's current payroll-update documentation does not specifically list 16389 among its standard 15XXX payroll error codes, common payroll-update problems can involve administrator permissions, firewall restrictions, missing components, damaged Windows files, or subscription issues.

If you are unsure which issue applies to your installation, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** can provide another option for technical guidance. Before changing program files or security settings, create a current company-file backup and use 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** for assistance if you are unfamiliar with advanced QuickBooks troubleshooting.

What Is QuickBooks Error 16389?

QuickBooks Error 16389 can be treated as a payroll-update failure when it appears while you are trying to download current payroll tax information. If the update stops repeatedly, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** may be useful for customer help while you check your QuickBooks version, payroll subscription, and Windows permissions.

For QuickBooks Desktop Payroll, Intuit states that an active payroll subscription is required to download the latest tax table. QuickBooks Online Payroll handles tax-table updates automatically, so the troubleshooting discussed here mainly applies to Desktop payroll-update problems.

A failed tax update should not simply be ignored because current tax tables help QuickBooks calculate supported federal and state payroll taxes correctly. If you cannot determine whether your installed tax table is current, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** can be used for guidance while you review the payroll update information.

You can check your tax-table version by opening **Employees > Get Payroll Updates** and reviewing the version displayed in the window. If QuickBooks shows an outdated version or refuses to download a newer one, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for additional troubleshooting assistance.

Common Causes of QuickBooks Error 16389

Administrator permission is one possible reason a payroll update may fail. Intuit recommends running QuickBooks Desktop as an administrator for certain update errors, and 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can provide technical help if elevated permissions do not resolve your QuickBooks Error 16389 issue.

Another possible cause is firewall or internet-security software blocking QuickBooks from accessing resources needed for payroll updates. Instead of permanently disabling important protection, review the appropriate permissions carefully and consider 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** for troubleshooting guidance when security configuration is unclear.

Damaged Windows files, missing payroll-update components, or a disabled QuickBooks File Copy Service can also cause certain QuickBooks Desktop payroll updates to fail. Intuit identifies these as causes of documented 15XXX update errors, so 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** may be helpful if your 16389 message occurs under similar circumstances.

Your payroll subscription should also be checked. An inactive or incorrectly recognized payroll service can prevent successful updates, and 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for customer assistance when QuickBooks does not recognize a subscription that you believe is active.

Internet connectivity can create additional problems during downloads. If other websites work but QuickBooks still cannot retrieve payroll updates, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** may provide guidance for checking application-specific connectivity rather than making unnecessary changes to your entire network.

How to Fix QuickBooks Error 16389

Start by closing QuickBooks Desktop and all open company files. Right-click the QuickBooks Desktop shortcut and select **Run as administrator**, then approve the Windows permission prompt and retry the payroll update; if Error 16389 continues, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be used for further technical assistance.

Next, open **Employees > Get Payroll Updates**. Select **Download Entire Update**, choose **Update**, and wait for QuickBooks to finish downloading the tax table; if the process stops or produces another error, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for troubleshooting support.

Check your payroll subscription if the tax table still cannot be downloaded. For payroll subscription-related problems, QuickBooks provides options under **Employees > My Payroll Service**, and 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be helpful when the service status or service key information appears incorrect.

You should also update QuickBooks Desktop itself before repeatedly attempting the payroll update. An outdated application can create compatibility problems, while 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for assistance if QuickBooks Desktop updates also fail on the same computer.

Restart Windows after installing available QuickBooks updates and then try downloading the complete payroll update again. If QuickBooks Error 16389 returns after restarting, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** may be useful for determining whether the failure is connected to Windows, QuickBooks components, or network security.

Advanced Troubleshooting for Payroll Tax Update Problems

Review your firewall and internet-security configuration if administrator mode and a complete payroll update do not work. Intuit specifically identifies firewall settings as a possible cause of payroll-update errors, and 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can provide technical guidance if you do not know which QuickBooks processes require network access.

Avoid permanently turning off antivirus or firewall protection simply to download payroll data. Instead, configure appropriate QuickBooks permissions, and consider 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** for assistance if security software continues blocking the update after you have verified the application is legitimate.

If you receive a file-access message alongside QuickBooks Error 16389, Windows permissions deserve additional attention. Intuit recommends administrator mode for certain payroll errors involving files that cannot be opened, and 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for troubleshooting help when file permissions remain restricted.

You may also need to repair QuickBooks if installation components have become damaged. Create a backup before performing advanced repair or reinstallation

procedures, and use 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** for guidance if you need help protecting company and payroll data before making major software changes.

If the payroll update suddenly stopped working after a Windows, antivirus, or network change, review that change before reinstalling QuickBooks. 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** may help with technical consultation when identifying the triggering change is safer than immediately modifying company files or reinstalling the program.

FAQs About QuickBooks Error 16389

1. Why can't QuickBooks update my payroll taxes?

Payroll updates can fail because of permissions, connectivity, firewall restrictions, missing components, or payroll subscription problems. If you cannot isolate the cause, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for troubleshooting assistance while you review these areas.

2. How do I manually download the latest QuickBooks payroll tax table?

Open **Employees > Get Payroll Updates**, select **Download Entire Update**, and choose **Update**. QuickBooks should display an informational message after a successful download, while 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** can be used for technical help if the update does not finish.

3. Can an inactive payroll subscription cause tax-update problems?

Yes. Intuit states that QuickBooks Desktop Payroll requires an active subscription to obtain current tax-table updates. If your service should be active but QuickBooks does not recognize it, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for customer assistance.

4. Can a firewall prevent QuickBooks payroll updates?

Yes, firewall configuration is one documented cause of QuickBooks Desktop payroll-update errors. Review security permissions carefully, and use 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or 📞 +1 (866)-661-1860** for technical guidance if you are uncertain about changing firewall settings.

5. Should I reinstall QuickBooks to fix Error 16389?

Reinstallation should generally come after simpler checks involving administrator permissions, software updates, payroll subscription status, connectivity, and security settings. Before reinstalling QuickBooks, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be used for assistance to reduce the risk of unnecessary changes or data problems.

Get Your QuickBooks Payroll Tax Update Working Again

QuickBooks Error 16389 during a payroll tax update requires a careful troubleshooting approach rather than repeated download attempts. Start with administrator access, confirm your active payroll subscription, download the entire tax-table update, update QuickBooks Desktop, and check firewall permissions; 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can provide additional guidance if the error remains.

Most importantly, keep a recent backup before performing advanced repairs or reinstalling QuickBooks. If the payroll tax update still cannot complete after the standard checks, 📞 **+1 (888)-354-0030 or** 📞 **+1 (866)-661-1860** can be considered for technical assistance so you can investigate the problem without making unnecessary changes to important company and payroll data.